

## Memorandum



### Water Utilities Department

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Date: December 6, 2001  
To: Mayor and Council  
From: Don Hawkes - Deputy Water Utilities Manager – Operations (X-2660)  
Through: Tom Gallier - Water Utilities Manager (X-2625)  
Cc: Will Manley - City Manager  
Subject: Painting of Hayden Butte Water Tanks

#### Background

In March of 2001 the Council approved Contract Number 01-052-01 with Utility Service Company for Water Tank Repair and Maintenance. This contract includes re-painting the exterior of the City's elevated water storage reservoirs. The time has arrived to select the coating color for the two tanks on Hayden Butte.

#### Alternatives

Staff did investigate two other alternatives for “hiding” the tanks. Painting murals on water tanks to help them blend into surroundings is done on a regular basis. For the Hayden Butte tanks desert landscape scenes featuring low bushes and desert trees such as Palo Verde and Mesquite could be painted to scale on the tanks. This method of camouflage carries a premium cost of approximately \$35,000 to \$50,000 per tank depending on the size. The other method we considered was constructing a wall of “faux rock” to wrap around the tanks and actually hide them from view. This method also carries a premium cost of \$350,000 to \$500,000. The premium cost of these alternatives was thought to be too high for further consideration.

#### Staff Recommendation

We have provided a color attachment consisting of Figures 1 through 4 that step through the analysis leading to the staff recommendation. Figure 1 is a high-resolution digital photo of the Hayden Butte tanks taken from City Hall showing how they look today. On Figure 2 we have superimposed 9 individual paint chip colors selected by staff from the color charts of Tnemec, the paint supplier specified in the contract. On Figure 3 we have added the color names. And in Figure 4 we have simulated painting of the tanks with the color selection recommended by staff.

As can be seen in the simulation in Figure 4, the mottled appearance of the multi-color “camouflage” type of coating (Quartz Q109) aids in blending the tanks into the buttes. However, this is a simulation and the tanks may appear different in their final condition. We do believe that this type of coating system provides the best opportunity to blend the tanks into the butte and recommend that we proceed with this coating system.

Figure 1

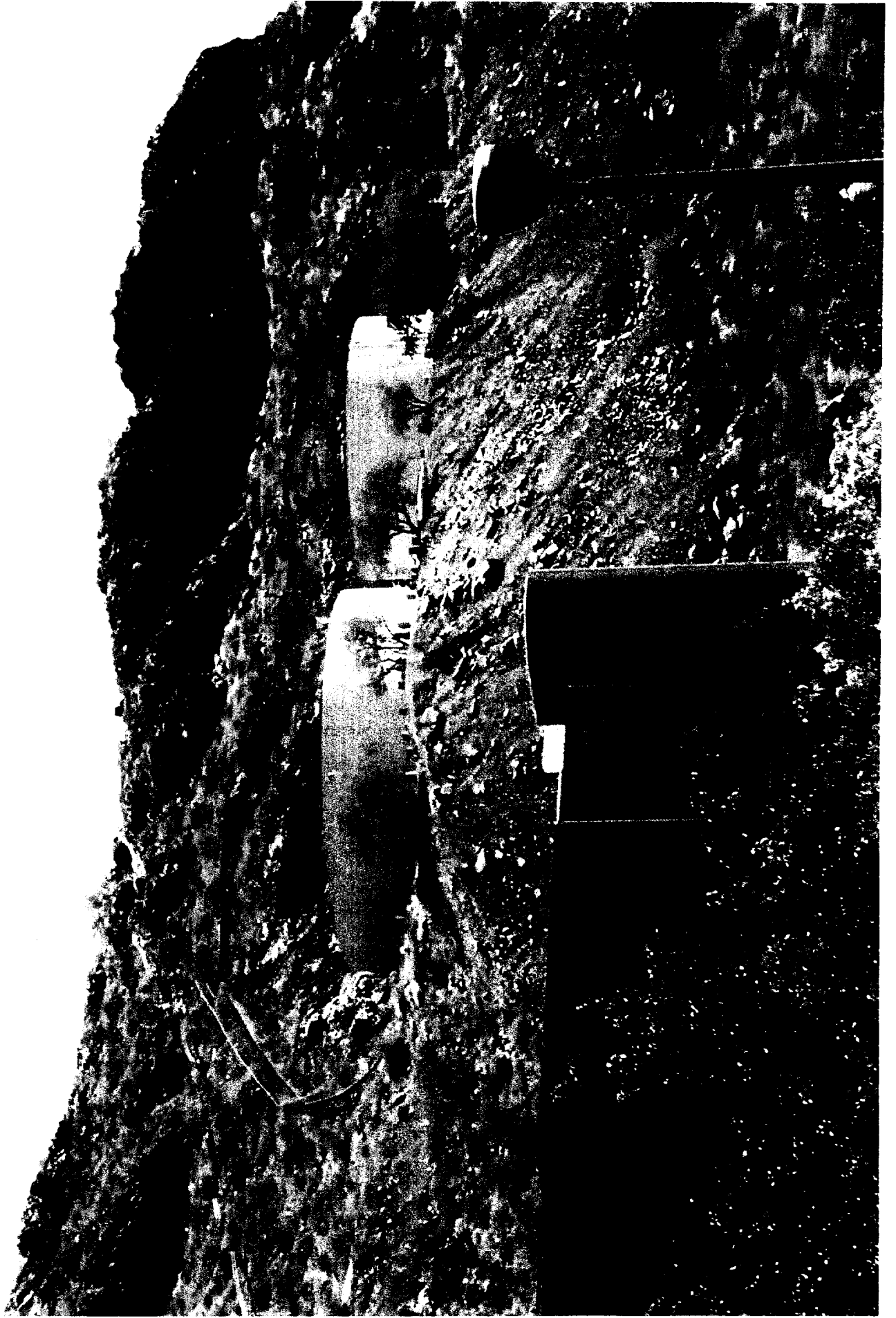


Figure 2

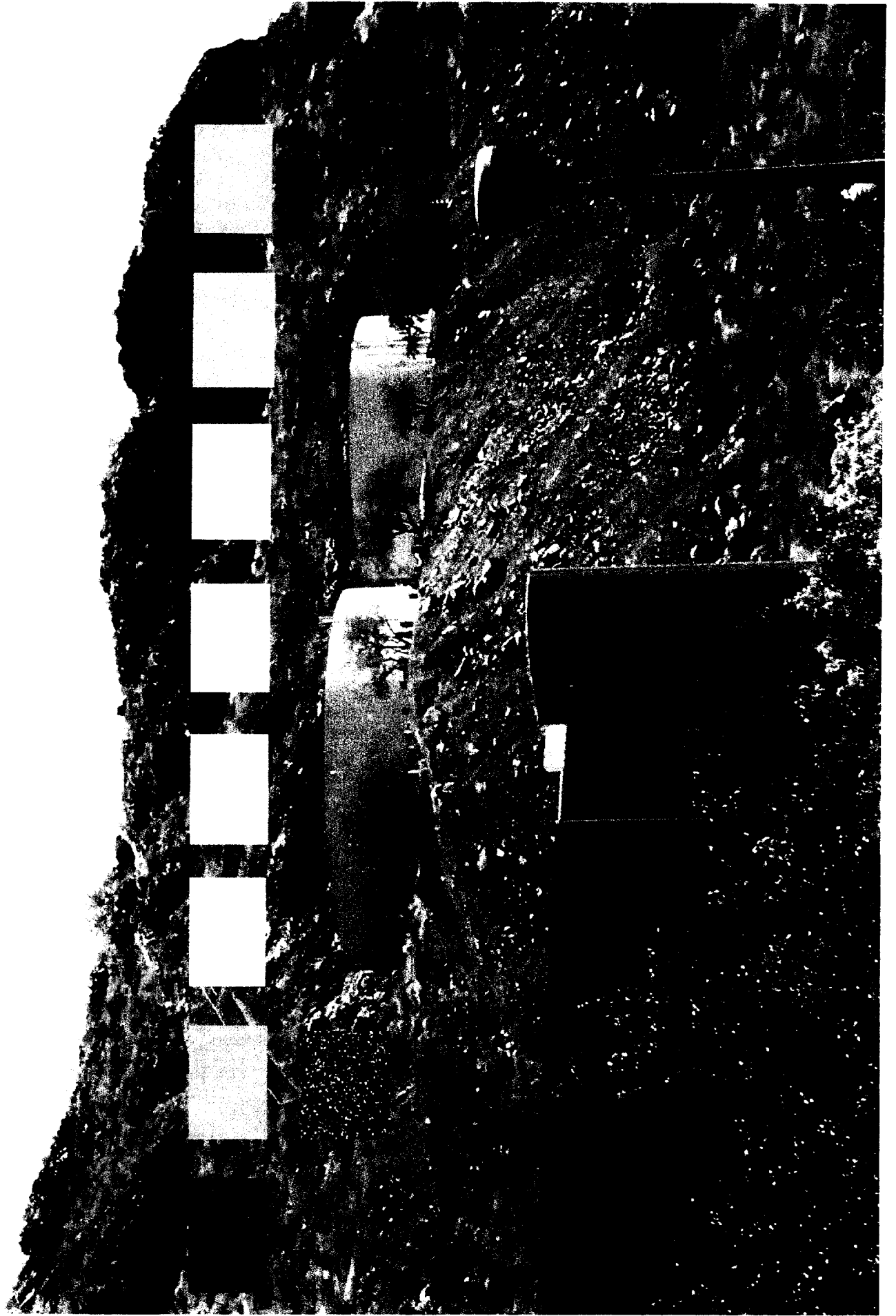


Figure 3

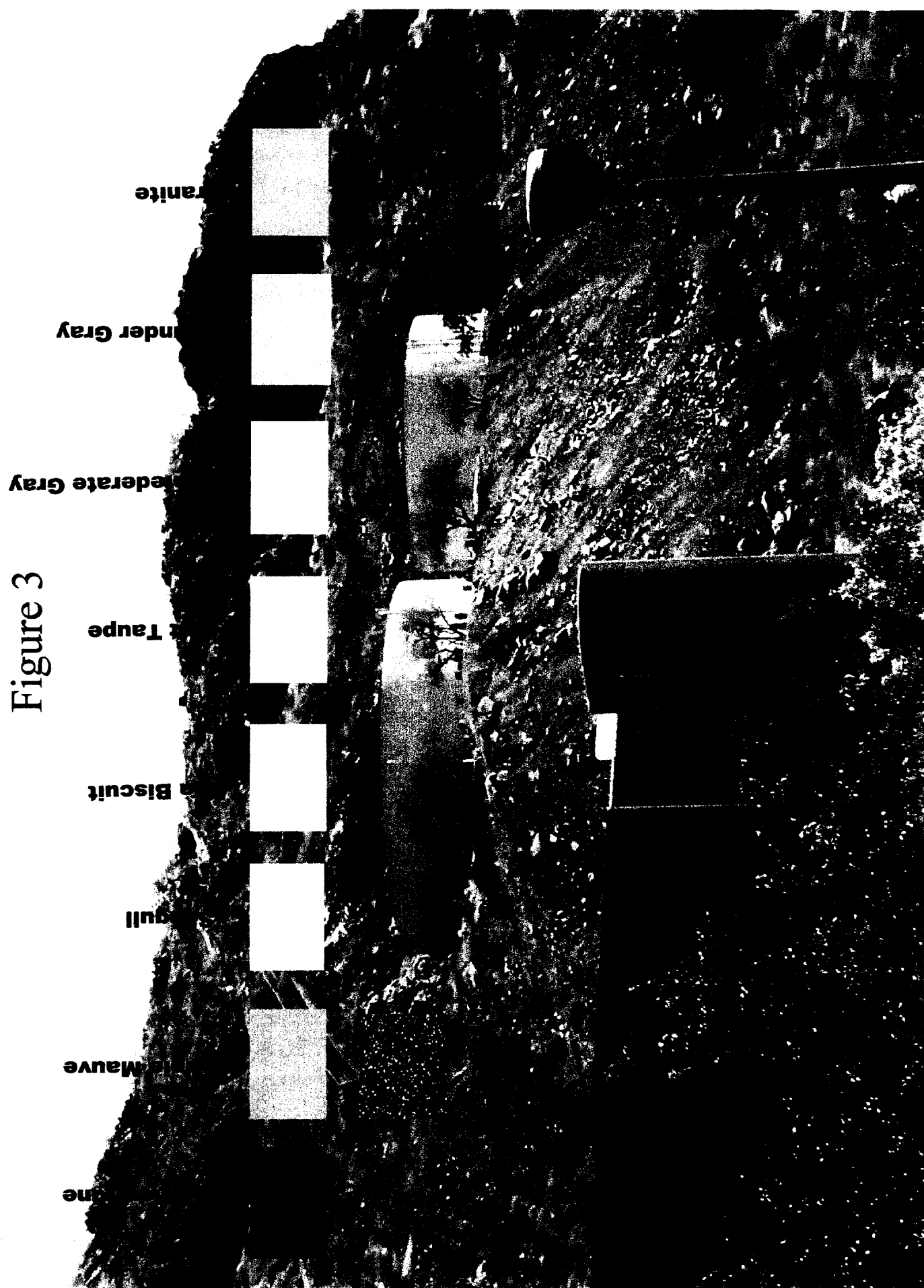


Figure 4

